

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Polyacrylamide beads containing encapsulated cells are prepared by the process having the steps of (i) providing an aqueous solution of a mixture of acrylic monomers, (ii) providing a suspension of cells in an aqueous solution of a persulfate, (iii) providing an emulsion of an aqueous solution of a tertiary amine in a water-immiscible liquid, which liquid optionally contains a surfactant, (iv) mixing the solution provided in step (i) and the suspension provided in step (ii), (v) adding the mixture obtained in step (iv) to the stirred emulsion provided in step (iii), and (vi) polymerizing the mixture of acrylic monomers and simultaneously encapsulating the cells to form polyacrylamide beads containing encapsulated cells.